GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3062
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2016
Capacity of MECL Laboratories
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Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of existing/functioning laboratories under the control of Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd. (MECL) with their present capacity:
(b) whether the MECL is planning to increase the capacity of its laboratories, if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether MECL is planning to commence mining of bauxite in Chhattisgarh;
(d) if so, the details thereof; and
(e) the turnover expected to increase through mining of bauxite?

Answer

(a): Three numbers of laboratories, namely, chemical, physical and petrological are functioning under the control of Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd. (MECL). The analytical capacities of these laboratories are 75000, 650 and 1440 samples per annum respectively.

(b): Yes. MECL has plans to increase the capacity of its laboratories by installing additional equipment like X-Ray Fluorescence, Atomic Absorption Spectrometer, Bomb Calorimeter, Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometer, Derivetograph, Electron Probe Micro Analyser, Petrological Microscopes etc. Further, MECL has plans of constructing an integrated laboratory complex and a coal analysis laboratory.
(c) & (d): Yes, MECL has plans to commence mining of Bauxite in Chattisgarh in Serangdag Block-I, village-Serangdag, Tehsil-Kusmi, District-Balrampur. Mining operations will commence subject to grant of the environmental clearances, execution of the lease deed and acquisition of land.

(e): The proposed capacity of mine is 0.3 million tonnes per year. The turnover will depend on the actual sale price of bauxite in the year
when bauxite production starts. However, as per the feasibility report of mining in the block prepared by MECL in December, 2015, the turnover is expected to increase by Rs.28 crore.